Attorney Docket No.: 010971.52513US

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An arrangement for sealing an opening of a rotor housing in which a vacuum prevails, through which opening a shaft, supported outside of the rotor housing, projects, said arrangement comprising at least two sealing gaps, of which a first sealing gap is formed between the shaft and a sealing element free floating in relation to the opening, while a second sealing gap is formed with a ring collar of the spinning rotor bordering on the shaft, wherein the second sealing gap is also formed with the same free floating sealing element.

- 2. An arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sealing element comprises a radial flange, which is disposed on an also radially aligned support surface of the rotor housing, and which comprises a tube-like area arranged at the collar.
- 3. An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the radial flange is pressed to the support surface by at least one spring element.
- 4. An arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the sealing element comprises an essentially radially extending sealing surface which together with a rear wall of the spinning rotor forms a third sealing gap.
- 5. An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the sealing element comprises an essentially radially extending sealing surface which together with a rear wall of the spinning rotor forms a third sealing gap.
- 6. An arrangement according to claim 3, wherein the sealing element comprises an essentially radially extending sealing surface which together with a rear wall of the spinning rotor forms a third sealing gap.

Attorney Docket No.: 010971.52513US

7. An arrangement according to claim 4, wherein the sealing surface is provided with a hollow cylindrical extension which envelopes a cylindrical area of the rear wall.

- 8. An arrangement according to claim 5, wherein the sealing surface is provided with a hollow cylindrical extension which envelopes a cylindrical area of the rear wall.
- 9. An arrangement according to claim 6, wherein the sealing surface is provided with a hollow cylindrical extension which envelopes a cylindrical area of the rear wall.
- 10. An arrangement according to claim 4, wherein the sealing surface is arranged at an exchangeable part which is connectable to the sealing element.
- 11. An arrangement according to claim 5, wherein the sealing surface is arranged at an exchangeable part which is connectable to the sealing element.
- 12. An arrangement according to claim 6, wherein the sealing surface is arranged at an exchangeable part which is connectable to the sealing element.
- 13. An arrangement according to claim 7, wherein the sealing surface is arranged at an exchangeable part which is connectable to the sealing element.
- 14. An arrangement according to claim 8, wherein the sealing surface is arranged at an exchangeable part which is connectable to the sealing element.
- 15. An arrangement according to claim 9, wherein the sealing surface is arranged at an exchangeable part which is connectable to the sealing element.
- 16. An arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the exchangeable part is pressed onto a tube-like area of the sealing element.

- 17. An arrangement according to claim 11, wherein the exchangeable part is pressed onto a tube-like area of the sealing element.
- 18. An arrangement according to claim 12, wherein the exchangeable part is pressed onto a tube-like area of the sealing element.
- 19. An arrangement according to claim 13, wherein the exchangeable part is pressed onto a tube-like area of the sealing element.
- 20. An arrangement according to claim 14, wherein the exchangeable part is pressed onto a tube-like area of the sealing element.
- 21. An arrangement according to claim 15, wherein the exchangeable part is pressed onto a tube-like area of the sealing element.
- 22. A unitary sealing element operable in use to seal an open end spinning rotor assembly having a rotor shaft supporting a rotor cup with respect to flow of air through a housing opening which in use is penetrated by the rotor shaft,

said unitary sealing element being a free floating sealing element which in use forms a first annular sealing gap between the rotor shaft and the sealing element and a second sealing gap between the sealing element and a ring collar connecting the rotor cup and rotor shaft.

- 23. A unitary sealing element according to claim 22, wherein the sealing element comprises a radial flange, which is disposed on an also radially aligned support surface of the housing, and which comprises a tube-like area arranged at the collar.
- 24. A unitary sealing element according to claim 22, wherein the sealing element comprises an essentially radially extending sealing surface which together with a rear wall of the spinning rotor forms a third sealing gap.

25. A unitary sealing element according to claim 23, wherein the sealing element comprises an essentially radially extending sealing surface which together with a rear wall of the spinning rotor forms a third sealing gap.